

Louisiana. Decades later, he helped Governor Kathleen Blanco guide our State out of one of its darkest periods following the devastating impact of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita as chairman of the Louisiana Recovery Authority. His leadership and expertise played an important role in the rebuilding of a world-class quality, State public higher education system.

On a personal note, Dr. Francis is one of our family's closest and most cherished friends, and he has most certainly earned his retirement. And as a devoted family man, I know he is looking forward to more time with his dear wife Blanche, children and growing grandchildren.

I am proud that Louisiana's higher education system, especially our valued Historically Black Colleges and Universities, have had the strong leadership and guidance of Dr. Francis over the years and I am grateful for his service. Dr. Francis' leadership as the president of Xavier University will be missed; however, I have full faith and trust that he will continue to lead in improving the educational prospects and outcomes for Louisiana's students in whatever role he pursues next. Once again, I am privileged and honored to formally recognize Dr. Norman Christopher Francis for his commitment and efforts to strengthen higher education in Louisiana and the Nation.●

TRIBUTE TO STUART CAMPBELL

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Stuart Campbell, an intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Stuart is a graduate of Central High School in Aberdeen, SD. Currently, Stuart is attending Georgetown University, where he is majoring in Science and Technology in International Affairs. Stuart is a dedicated worker who has been committed to getting the most out of his experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Stuart Campbell for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO ROSS DIETRICH

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Ross Dietrich, an intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Ross is a graduate of Roosevelt High School in Sioux Falls, SD. Currently, Ross is attending the University of South Dakota, where he is working toward an M.A. in addiction studies. Ross is a dedicated worker who has been committed to getting the most out of his experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Ross Dietrich for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO MARIA ECKRICH

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Maria Eckrich, an intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Maria is a graduate of Lincoln High School in Sioux Falls, SD. Currently, Maria is attending American University's School of International Service, where she is studying global governance, politics, and security. Maria is a dedicated worker who has been committed to getting the most out of her experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Maria Eckrich for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO ANNE KEOUGH

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Anne Keough, an intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Anne is a graduate of Lincoln High School in Sioux Falls, SD. Currently, Anne is attending George Washington University, where she is majoring in international affairs/security policy and Arabic. Anne is a dedicated worker who has been committed to getting the most out of her experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Anne Keough for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO MEGAN REIFFENBERGER

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Megan Reiffenberger, an intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Megan is a graduate of Watertown High School in Watertown, SD. Currently, Megan is attending George Mason University, where she is majoring in English. Megan is a dedicated worker who has been committed to getting the most out of her experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Megan Reiffenberger for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO KELSEY SAKOS

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Kelsey Sakos, an intern in my Rapid City, SD office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Kelsey is a graduate of Stevens High School in Rapid City, SD. Currently, Kelsey is attending Black Hills State University, where she is majoring in political science/social science. Kelsey is a dedicated worker who has been

committed to getting the most out of her experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Kelsey Sakos for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

RECOGNIZING PROFESSORS OF THE YEAR

● Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. President, today I congratulate the four national winners of the U.S. Professor of the Year Award. Since 1981, this program has recognized outstanding undergraduate instructors throughout the country. A U.S. Professor of the Year was also recognized in 30 states and the District of Columbia.

This award is hailed as one of the most prestigious honors bestowed upon a professor. To be nominated for this award requires dedication to the art of education and excellence in every aspect of the profession. There is no doubt that professors who personally vest themselves in each student shape the leaders of tomorrow. These individuals should be proud of their accomplishments and contributions to a brighter future.

I am particularly proud of Dr. Branislav Notaros, the State winner from Colorado. As a professor of electrical and computer engineering and Director of the Electromagnetics Laboratory at Colorado State University, Dr. Notaros' research has been instrumental in advancing the field of electromagnetics. He has won numerous awards in recognition of his work, including the 2005 IEEE Microwave Prize and the 2009 CSU Excellence in Teaching Award.

I commend and thank Dr. Notaros and all the winners for their leadership and passion for educating our nation's young leaders. No doubt they have inspired an untold number of students. I wish all of the honorees the very best in all their endeavors. Congratulations and best regards.

The four national award winners are: Outstanding Baccalaureate Colleges Professor of the Year: Laurie Grobman, Professor of English and Women's Studies, Pennsylvania State University Berks; Outstanding Community Colleges Professor of the Year: John Wadach, Professor of Engineering Science and Physics, Monroe Community College; Outstanding Doctoral and Research Universities Professor of the Year: Sheri Sheppard, Professor of Mechanical Engineering, Stanford University and Outstanding Master's Universities and Colleges Professor of the Year: Patricia H. Kelley, Professor of Geology, University of North Carolina Wilmington.

The 30 state and District of Columbia winners are:

Alabama—Eric J. Fournier, Professor of Geography, Samford University;

Arizona—James Sousa, Mathematics Instructor, Phoenix College;

California—Mitch Malachowski, Professor of Chemistry, University of San Diego;